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Letter dated 30 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I wish to place on record the continued acts of aggression carried out by United States and Australian naval units in Iraqi territorial waters, as follows:

1. On 26 December 2002 two patrol boats, each carrying nine persons and both belonging to an Australian naval unit, undertook to inspect the tugboat *Taj al-ma'arik* near buoy No. 1 in Iraqi territorial waters. The inspection process lasted half an hour.

2. A patrol boat carrying 10 persons and belonging to the United States destroyer DDG-59 USS *Russell* committed aggression against the tugboat *Silesia*, which was towing the pontoon *Al-Fayha'* in the inspection zone. Its Iraqi crew of 11 persons was detained and it was permitted to depart with its crew on the same day. The tugboat was carrying 2,000 tons of fuel oil and the oil was towed by the steamship *Fireikel*, which is owned by a person of Greek nationality and is placed under the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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